

10 October 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: Revision of the Arab-Israeli Handbook

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation in paragraph 5.
2. When the Ad Hoc Working Group which produced "The Arab-Israeli Situation" was disestablished by USIB on 18 July 1962, USIB placed the responsibility for producing a periodic review of Arab and Israeli military developments and of the status of recurrent Arab and Israeli disputes on the Chairman of the Board of National Estimates. The first such review, entitled "The Arab-Israeli Handbook," was published on 29 November 1962.
3. During the past year the Arab states and Israel have received additional military equipment from abroad, the UAR forces have been engaged in military operations in Yemen, and new developments have taken place in several of the old Arab-Israeli disputes. Moreover, both the UAR and Israel are seeking to develop or secure advanced weapons, which is adding a new dimension to an old conflict.

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4. In view of these developments, I believe the USIB should approve issuance of a revised version of "The Arab-Israeli Handbook" in December 1963. As in the past, a Special Intelligence supplement should accompany the handbook. [] Chief of the Afro-Asian Staff of OCI, who chaired the Ad Hoc Working Group, has agreed to supervise the proposed revision. He will call on members of the State and Defense Departments for the type of substantive support they provided for the November 1962 revision.

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5. I recommend that the Executive Secretary of the USIB circulate this memorandum to USIB members with a request for concurrence in approval of this project through the procedures suggested.

SHERMAN KENT
Chairman
Board of National Estimates

cc: Executive Secretary, USIB

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A carbon was sent to Cline for info.